



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/648,404	08/27/2003	Chih-Hung Chien	98730-000027/US	5321
30593 7590 11/27/2007 HARNESSE, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 8910 RESTON, VA 20195			EXAMINER CHEN, QING	
			ART UNIT 2191	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/27/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/648,404

Applicant(s)

CHIEN, CHIH-HUNG

Examiner

Qing Chen

Art Unit

2191

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 August 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the initial Office action based on the application filed on August 27, 2003.
2. **Claims 1-6** are pending.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to because "a objective code" and "a executable program" should read -- an objective code -- and -- an executable program --, respectively, in Figures 1, 3A, and 3B. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the Examiner, the Applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

4. **Claims 4-6** are objected to because of the following informalities:
- **Claim 4** recites the limitation “the table.” Applicant is advised to change this limitation to read “the function description and reference code correspondence table” for the purpose of providing it with proper explicit antecedent basis.
 - **Claims 5 and 6** depend on Claim 4 and, therefore, suffer the same deficiency as Claim 4.
- Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 1 and 4** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US **5,649,204 (hereinafter Pickett)**.

As per **Claim 1**, Pickett discloses:

- a storage medium for recording a function description and reference code correspondence table to describe the properties of the program modules (*see Column 3: 49-51*, “The code server 18 includes a code module information table 24 which stores information that

Art Unit: 2191

links modules of coded programs together.”; Column 4: 29-35, “It is this type of associative information that is stored in the code module information table 24 in FIG. 1. A request by a user for a particular code module will immediately locate all of the associative information pertaining to that module in the code module information table 24 if it has been previously stored there.”); and

- each of the program modules has a program pointer point towards a specific reference code and the reference codes are inserted into the source codes of different properties of program modules during programming so that serve as a reference for programming, linking and debugging (*see Figure 2; Column 4: 10-27, “The main code module 50 includes linkage information linking it with code module A, code module B and code module C.” and “Collectively the linkage information referred to above forms an associative set for the main code module and code modules A through E.”).*

As per **Claim 4**, Pickett discloses:

- establishing a function description and reference code correspondence table and recording the function description and reference code correspondence table in a storage medium (*see Column 3: 49-51, “The code server 18 includes a code module information table 24 which stores information that links modules of coded programs together.”; Column 4: 29-35, “It is this type of associative information that is stored in the code module information table 24 in FIG. 1. A request by a user for a particular code module will immediately locate all of the associative information pertaining to that module in the code module information table 24 if it has been previously stored there.”);*

Art Unit: 2191

- inserting the reference codes into corresponding source codes (*see Figure 2; Column 4: 10-27, "The main code module 50 includes linkage information linking it with code module A, code module B and code module C."*);
- linking each of the source codes to generate a complete source code (*see Figure 2; Column 4: 10-27, "Collectively the linkage information referred to above forms an associative set for the main code module and code modules A through E."*); and
- compiling and linking the complete source code to produce an executable program (*see Column 6: 1-11, "... a further application of the code server is to manage the translation of code from one form to another. The preparation of code for execution of a particular system may involve a translation of code. Some examples include, source to object code ..."*).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. **Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Pickett**.

As per **Claim 2**, the rejection of **Claim 1** is incorporated; however, **Pickett** does not disclose:

Art Unit: 2191

- wherein the reference codes are assigned and arranged using numbers.

Official Notice is taken that it is old and well-known within the computing art to arrange data using numbers. In a relational database design, a primary key—often a number—is used to uniquely identify each row in a table. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include wherein the reference codes are assigned and arranged using numbers. The modification would be obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to uniquely identify data.

As per **Claim 3**, the rejection of **Claim 1** is incorporated; however, Pickett does not disclose:

- wherein the program modules are selected from the group consisting of item, purchasing order, production order, actual ship, open sales order, on-hand stock, bill of material (BOM), material related data, vendor source list, and quotation of prices as used in manufacturing supply chains.

Official Notice is taken that it is old and well-known within the computing art to develop manufacturing supply chain program modules. Computer programs are widely used in the field of manufacturing supply chains. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include wherein the program modules are selected from the group consisting of item, purchasing order, production order, actual ship, open sales order, on-hand stock, bill of material (BOM), material related data, vendor source list, and quotation of prices as used in manufacturing supply chains. The modification would be obvious

Art Unit: 2191

because one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to develop software for a manufacturing supply chain.

As per **Claim 5**, the rejection of **Claim 4** is incorporated; however, Pickett does not disclose:

- wherein the reference codes are assigned and arranged using numbers.

Official Notice is taken that it is old and well-known within the computing art to arrange data using numbers. In a relational database design, a primary key—often a number—is used to uniquely identify each row in a table. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include wherein the reference codes are assigned and arranged using numbers. The modification would be obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to uniquely identify data.

As per **Claim 6**, the rejection of **Claim 4** is incorporated; however, Pickett does not disclose:

- wherein the program modules are selected from the group consisting of item, purchasing order, production order, actual ship, open sales order, on-hand stock, bill of material (BOM), material related data, vendor source list, and quotation of prices as used in manufacturing supply chains.

Official Notice is taken that it is old and well-known within the computing art to develop manufacturing supply chain program modules. Computer programs are widely used in the field of manufacturing supply chains. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

Art Unit: 2191

in the art at the time the invention was made to include wherein the program modules are selected from the group consisting of item, purchasing order, production order, actual ship, open sales order, on-hand stock, bill of material (BOM), material related data, vendor source list, and quotation of prices as used in manufacturing supply chains. The modification would be obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to develop software for a manufacturing supply chain.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Qing Chen whose telephone number is 571-270-1071. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The Examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen, can be reached on 571-272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

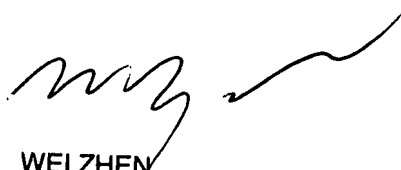
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

Art Unit: 2191

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

QC / QC
October 3, 2007



WEI ZHEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER